IN THE CLAIMS:

1-14. (Cancel).

15. (New) An isolated nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5.

16. (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 15.

17. (New) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 16.

18. (New) The host cell of claim 17 that is a prokaryotic cell.

19. (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 15 operatively linked to a *Corynebacterium dap*A gene.

20. (New) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 19.

21. (New) The host cell of claim 20, further comprising a vector comprising a *Cornybacterium lys*C gene.

22. (New) An isolated nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6.

23. (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 22.

24. (New) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 23.

25. (New) The host cell of claim 24 that is a prokaryotic cell.

26. (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 22 operatively linked to a *Corynebacterium dap*A gene.

27. (New) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 26.

28. (New) The host cell of claim 27, further comprising a vector comprising a *Cornybacterium lys*C gene.

29. (New) A process of producing L-lysine comprising culturing the host cell of claim 18 under suitable conditions to produce L-lysine, and isolating the L-lysine from the culture.

30. (New) A process of producing L-lysine comprising culturing the host cell of claim 21 under suitable conditions to produce L-lysine, and isolating the L-lysine from the culture.

31. (New) The process of claim 29 wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises promoter DNA other than the promoter DNA for the native DapA polypeptide operatively linked to the DNA encoding the DapA polypeptide.

32. (New) The process of claim 30 wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises promoter DNA other than the promoter DNA for the native DapA polypeptide operatively linked to the DNA encoding the DapA polypeptide.

33. (New) A process of producing L-lysine comprising culturing the host cell of claim 25 under suitable conditions to produce L-lysine, and isolating the L-lysine from the culture.

34. (New) A process of producing L-lysine comprising culturing the host cell of claim 28 under suitable conditions to produce L-lysine, and isolating the L-lysine from the culture.

35. (New) The process of claim 33 wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises promoter DNA other than the promoter DNA for the native DapA polypeptide operatively linked to the DNA encoding the DapA polypeptide.

36. (New) The process of claim 34 wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises promoter DNA other than the promoter DNA for the native DapA polypeptide operatively linked to the DNA encoding the DapA polypeptide.